

A.M." (Parish Register of Barking).

Young Jeffreys was not yet called to the Bar, and in the meantime he left her at her father's house, occasionally visiting her; and he continued to carry on his former pursuits, and to strengthen his connections in London, with a view to his success at the Bar, on which he resolutely calculated with unabated confidence.

After the first fervour of loyalty which burst out at the Restoration had passed away, a discontented party was formed, which gradually gained strength. With the leaders of this party Jeffreys associated himself, and in the hour of revelry would drink on his knees any toast to "the good old cause," and to "the immortal memory of old Noll." After keeping all his terms, he was, on the 22nd day of November, 1668, called to the Bar, having been on the books of the Society five years and six months. He did not go near any of the Superior Courts for some years, but confined himself to the Old Bailey, the London Sessions, and Hicks' Hall. He used every art to obtain work. "He used to sit in coffee-houses, and order his clerk to come and tell him that company attended him at his chamber. At which he would huff and say, 'Let them stay a little, I will come presently'; and thus made a show of business." Some of his pot companions were now of great use in bringing him briefs; but all this pushing would have been of no use if he had not fully equalled expectation by the forensic abilities which he displayed. He had a very sweet and powerful voice, having something in its tone which immediately fixed the attention, so that his audience were always compelled

to listen to him, irrespective of what he said. "He was of bold aspect, and cared not for the countenance of any man." He was extremely voluble, but always perspicuous and forcible, and he never spared any assertion that was likely to serve his client. He could get up a point of law so as to argue it with great ability, and with the Justices as well as with the juries his influence was unbounded. When a trial was going on, he was devotedly earnest in it; but when it was over, he would recklessly get drunk, as if he was never to have another to conduct. A voluble tongue, and a stentorian voice, joined with the interest of the disaffected party in the state, to which he at first attached himself, soon introduced him into considerable practice, principally confined to criminal business and the city Courts. Coming so much in contact with the aldermen, he ingratiated himself with them, and was particularly patronized by a namesake (though no relation) of his, — Jeffreys, alderman of Bread Street Ward, who was very wealthy, a great smoker (an accomplishment in which the lawyer could rival him, as well as in drinking), and who had immense influence with the livery. Through the powerful influence of this alderman, before he had been two-and-a-half years at the Bar, and while only twenty-three years of age, Jeffreys was elected Common Sergeant of the city of London, on March 17th, 1671, on a vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Sir Richard Browne. He was not yet a servile favorite; for either presuming upon the good-will which he had secured by his address among the citizens, or impelled by that confidence which so often accom-